

Message Text

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PAGE 01 LONDON 01739 071551Z

46

ACTION NEA-13

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 EB-11 MC-02 OMB-01 TRSE-00

CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 DODE-00 DRC-01 /065 W

----- 092720

R 071546Z FEB 74

FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 7790

USDOC WASHDC

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

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KUWAIT PASS DOHA

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: BEXP, QA

SUBJECT: SALE OF VEHICLES TO QATARI ARMY AND ABU
DHABI FORCES

REF: KUWAIT 0446 (NOTAL); LONDON 1688; ABU DHABI 0122

1. ON FEBRUARY 6 WE TOLD CHRYSLER'S CHRISTMAS OF CABLE
FROM EMBASSY ABU DHABI. CHRISTMAS HAD CONFIRMED THAT
ONLY INQUIRY HE KNEW OF WAS FOR UP TO 150 RELATIVELY
LIGHT 4X4 VEHICLES FOR ABU DHABI FORCES. THIS HAD
BEEN SENT IN BY THE OTHER CHRYSLER DISTRIBUTOR IN THE
GULF AREA, A FIRM CALLED OMAN NATIONAL.

2. CHRISTMAS TOOK DOWN DETAILS OF QATAR INQUIRY,
COMMENTING THAT IT CONCERNS MUCH HEAVIER VEHICLES
THAN THE ABU DHABI INQUIRY. WHEN WE MADE THE POINT
OF LARGE HEAVY-DUTY SAND TIRES, HE SAID HE DID NOT
BELIEVE VEHICLES HAVE ENOUGH CLEARANCE TO ACCOMMODATE
THAT LARGE A TIRE BUT HE WOULD CHECK INTO IT. WE
TOLD CHRISTMAS OF IRWIN'S NEED FOR EXPEDITIOUS REPLY
BY FEBRUARY 8 AT LATEST AND HE SAID HE WOULD TRY TO
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PAGE 02 LONDON 01739 071551Z

FIND WHERE MESSAGE MIGHT HAVE GOTTEN MISDIRECTED

WITHIN CHRYSLER'S LONDON OPERATION. HE EXPRESSED SOME PUZZLEMENT WHY AA ZAYANI IS HANDLING QATAR INQUIRY OUT OF ABU DHABI WHEN IT HAS SEPARATE DEALERSHIP IN DOHA.

3. AS TO ABU DHABI INQUIRY, HE SAID CHRYSLER HAS JUST DEVELOPED A VEHICLE OF THIS TYPE WHICH IS SIMILAR TO THE BRITISH RANGEROVER. ONLY THING HOLDING UP REPLY IS ABU DHABI REQUIREMENT FOR CANVAS TOP. CHRISTMAS HAS QUERIED DETROIT AS TO WHETHER THIS CAN BE DONE. HE SEES NO REASON WHY IT CANNOT, BUT IS AWAITING CONFIRMATION BEFORE REPLYING TO THAT INQUIRY.

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Message Attributes

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